Plans for Additional Hurricane Ida Recovery Funding

Public Comment Period Is Open Through May 14

New York State Homes and Community Renewal's Office of Resilient Homes and Communities (RHC) announced a proposed plan for approximately \$26 million in additional federal disaster recovery funding. The plan was included in the proposed amendment to the State's action plan for recovery from Hurricane Ida. The proposed amendment is available here in English and Spanish. Applications for the Hurricane Ida recovery programs will open later this year.

The \$26 million was allocated under the federal 2023 Appropriations Act, which added to the initial \$40 million in Hurricane Ida recovery funding that New York initially received in 2022.

The Ida Action Plan Amendment 1 (APA 1) proposed that the additional funding will be allocated to RHC's Hurricane Ida-related programs including the Housing Recovery and Reimbursement Program, Renters Resilient Housing Initiative, Affordable Housing Resiliency Initiative, and Resilient Investments through Support and Capital (RISC) Program. This was proposed based on RHC's additional data analysis of unmet needs, as well as follow up with key stakeholders including local officials, affordable housing providers, and community organization partners. The full amendment is available here.

APA 1 also included other proposals such as updates to the RISC program to focus assistance on completing activities to meet its objective of leveraging other funding sources to improve public facilities, infrastructure and community resiliency. It also expanded applicant eligibility to include vulnerable populations and historically disadvantaged members of protected classes. Low-to medium-income (LMI) applicants will continue to be prioritized.

When RHC amends certain details on storm recovery and resiliency projects that are in planning or underway, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires a substantial amendment that documents those updates, and to publish it for the public's information and input.

Members of the public can submit comments via webform, by emailing info@stormrecovery.ny.gov, or by mail to the Office of Resilient Homes and Communities, ATTN: Public Comments, 60 Broad Street, 26th Floor, New York, NY 10004. The public comment period for this APA will end on May 14, 2023. Comments received after that date will not be considered.

APA 1, as well as the initial Action Plan, is available online here and will be provided, without charge, to anyone requesting copies at info@stormrecovery.ny.gov or by calling: 1-855-697-7263.

About RHC

In October 2022, Governor Kathy Hochul announced the creation of the Office of Resilient Homes and Communities (RHC), which assumed the Governor's Office of Storm Recovery's portfolio. GOSR was established as a temporary agency in 2013 to coordinate statewide recovery efforts for Superstorm Sandy, Hurricane Irene, and Tropical Storm Lee. More recently, the agency is also coordinating long term recovery and resiliency efforts for Hurricane Ida. RHC is also partnering with the State's disaster-response agencies to lead New York's recovery and resiliency efforts and develop a pipeline of resiliency initiatives and strategies across the State.